

EXHIBIT 1

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION

**STEVEN HOTZE, M.D., WENDELL CHAMPION,
HON. STEVE TOTH, and SHARON HEMPHILL,**
Plaintiffs,

v.

Case No. 4:20-cv-03709

CHRIS HOLLINS, In his official capacity as Harris County Clerk,
Defendant,

and

**MJ FOR TEXAS; DSCC; DCCC;
MARY CURRIE; CARLTON CURRIE JR.;
JEKAYA SIMMONS; DANIEL COLEMAN,
JERELYN GOODEN, S. SHAWN STEPHENS
GLENDA GREENE, AND MICHELE ROYER**
Proposed Intervenor- Defendants

DECLARATION OF JERELYN MATTHIS GOODEN

Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. Section 1746, I, Jerelyn Matthis Gooden, declare as follows:

1. I am a registered voter residing in Harris County. I voted inside the garage at the Toyota Center on October 18, 2020 shortly before 6:22 p.m. I presented my valid Texas Identification Card as proof of identity and was permitted to vote at that location.
2. Attached as Exhibit 1-A is a true and correct copy of me holding up my "I voted" sticker shortly after I voted.
3. I am eighty-six (86) years old.
4. My husband, Captain DeFarris Gooden, an Army Chaplain, died in 2017. Before he died, he was my personal chauffeur.

5. Because I cannot drive and have not driven in several years, I was driven to the voting location which was inside of a parking garage.

6. I voted there for several reasons. My internist has strongly advised me not to be in confined spaces with lots of people – such as in airplanes or buses, or gatherings, because of my age and my many ailments (blood pressure, diabetes, poor circulation) – all of which make contracting Covid-19 very dangerous for me. As a result of these instructions, I have not travelled by plane or bus.

7. I cannot stand for long periods of time, walk distances or be away from the conveniences of home for extended periods of time without suffering physical consequences. I use a rollator as I cannot walk long distances without assistance,

8. It was a pleasure to vote there as I did not have to walk to a booth or try to stand up in it. The voting personnel brought the voting equipment to me.

9. Last Wednesday evening, October 28, 2020, I suffered nearly the entire day from arthritis in both of my hands. I had intense pain. I could not move my fingers at times, as there were contorted and unmovable. I could not hold a fork or eat my dinner. This condition recurs at unexpected times. At those times, my hands are useless.

10. I voted at the Toyota Center facility because I relied on its availability and the instructions for voting there. I am very concerned that my vote will be invalidated because of the efforts to suppress my validly cast vote and the votes

of others. I never would have voted at that facility had I believed that there was any chance that my vote would be invalidated. I relied on the notion that my vote would be counted just as much as the vote of other Texas voters who voted at the locations designated by their Counties. I would be devastated and feel unjustly cheated if my vote were invalidated.

11. As my husband is deceased, I must rely on my children for transportation. Both work full-time. One has a trial setting on November 3, and I cannot predict whether he will be available to take me to vote again.

12. If I have to go to a polling place on election day, I will be in an enclosed space with strangers, and will have to wait a long while to vote – assuming that my fingers work that day and that I am allowed to vote.

13. I have proudly voted all of my adult life in Harris County, Texas, and in every Presidential election here since the 1960s. My father and mother, who raised me in Dallas, Texas set an example for my siblings and me about the importance of voting. They would dress to vote as if they were going to church.

14. I relied on instructions from the Harris County Clerk that a drive-through vote would be counted. I felt comfortable presuming my vote would be counted just like any other early vote and would be included in the totals on election day.

15. I am very concerned about the effort to invalidate the ballot that I cast. I have relied on the process for voting to cast that ballot and would not have

done so if it did not exist. I have made no plan at this time to vote on election day as to do so would increase my risk of exposure to Covid-19.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 1st day of November 2020.

Jerelyn Matthis Gooden

Jerelyn Matthis Gooden

Signature: 
Jerelyn Gooden (Nov 1, 2020 22:51 CST)

Email: deirdrebarrettmarketing@gmail.com






Hotze v. Hollins - Final Declaration of Jerelyn Matthis Gooden

Final Audit Report

2020-11-02

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